

BUREAU OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT

The Bureau of Child Development (BCD) administers a cluster of programs which affect the early education, development and care of children. Its mission: Building Bright Futures for Children.

The Family and Social Services Administration through the Division of Family and Children and the Bureau of Child Development provides to families a continuum of services based on each family's needs. The Bureau administers the child care portion of the Social Services Block Grant (Title XX), the Child Care and Development Block Grant, the School Age Child Care Project and the First Steps Program.

The Social Services Block Grant (Title XX) funds and state supplement funds provide for three services: 1) child care for low income families working or in education/training programs; 2) early intervention services for eligible children and their families; and 3) activities for physically disabled children.

The Child Care and Development Fund funds each of the 92 counties in order to develop and implement a voucher system and child care contract system for income eligible families with children 13 years of age and under. These 100 percent federal funds provide eligible parents with full or partial reimbursement of their child care costs. Currently, an estimated 42,000 children receive services through this grant. This fund joined together all child care subsidy money for low income families (formerly Child Care & Development Block Grant, Guaranteed Child Care, Transitional Child Care & IV-A At Risk).

These funding streams comprise a system which has increased the availability, affordability and quality of child care services for Hoosier families and children. Each year the programs have served increasing numbers of children throughout the state. The Step Ahead Councils manage the expenditure of these funds at the local level.

The School Age Child Care Project Fund provides before and after school care to children ages five to fifteen. Indiana was the first state to appropriate funds for school age child care. School Age Child Care funding impacts 7,000 children.

The First Steps Program provides for a community-based coordinated, comprehensive early intervention system of services for families which have infants and toddlers with developmental delays, disabilities or who show signs of being at risk for delays. Services children may receive through Indiana's First Steps system include special instruction, speech language pathology, physical therapy, nutrition services, transportation, social work services, family education, vision services, assistive technology services, health services, nursing services, audiology, diagnostic medical services, occupational therapy and psychological services. This program is an entitlement. Over 11,477 infants and toddlers were served this year during SFY '99..

The Licensing Section is responsible for processing applications for the licensing of child care homes, centers and facilities. This includes visits at least annually to homes or centers to check for compliance with child care regulations and the investigation of complaints. The Bureau's Health Section provides quarterly sanitation surveys of registered child care ministries to ensure compliance with statutory requirements.

The child care licensing process provides assurance to working parents that their children are in a safe, healthy, and appropriate environment when in out-of-home care. The application, inspection, and complaint investigation responsibilities for child care centers are directed by the central office, with regionally based field consultants. The child care licensing for homes is handled by the local offices of Family and Children through contracted family child care licensing specialists or Family Case Managers.

The Bureau of Child Development supports local planning efforts for families by:

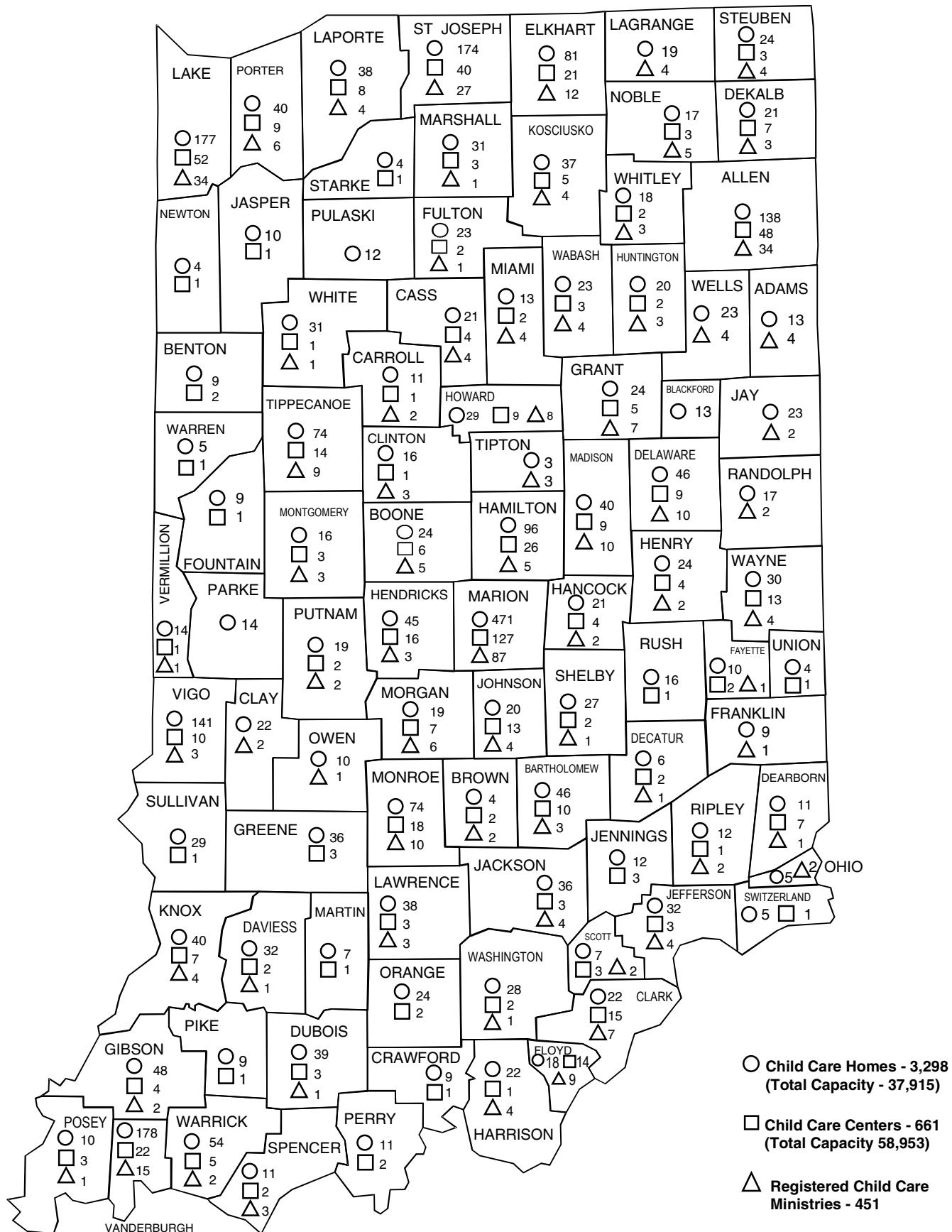
- 1) providing local consultants for child care licensing (centers & homes) and Child Care Health inspections;
- 2) assigning Bureau accountants to three specific regions of the state to facilitate better fiscal management of programs;
- 3) assigning First Steps & Educare consultants to regions of the state with field based offices.
- 4) providing Health & Nutrition Consultants for Child Care Centers & Residential Child Care Facilities for monitoring compliance with health, food regulations.
- 5) providing sanitarians to monitor registered ministries for building sanitation compliance four times a year.

The accountants work with Bureau consultants and grantees to more readily resolve fiscal issues of the following programs: First Steps; Child Care & Development Fund; and other child care contracts.

The First Steps Bureau consultants work on First Steps issues including implementation of System Points Of Entry (SPOE) and the Central Reimbursement Office (CRO).

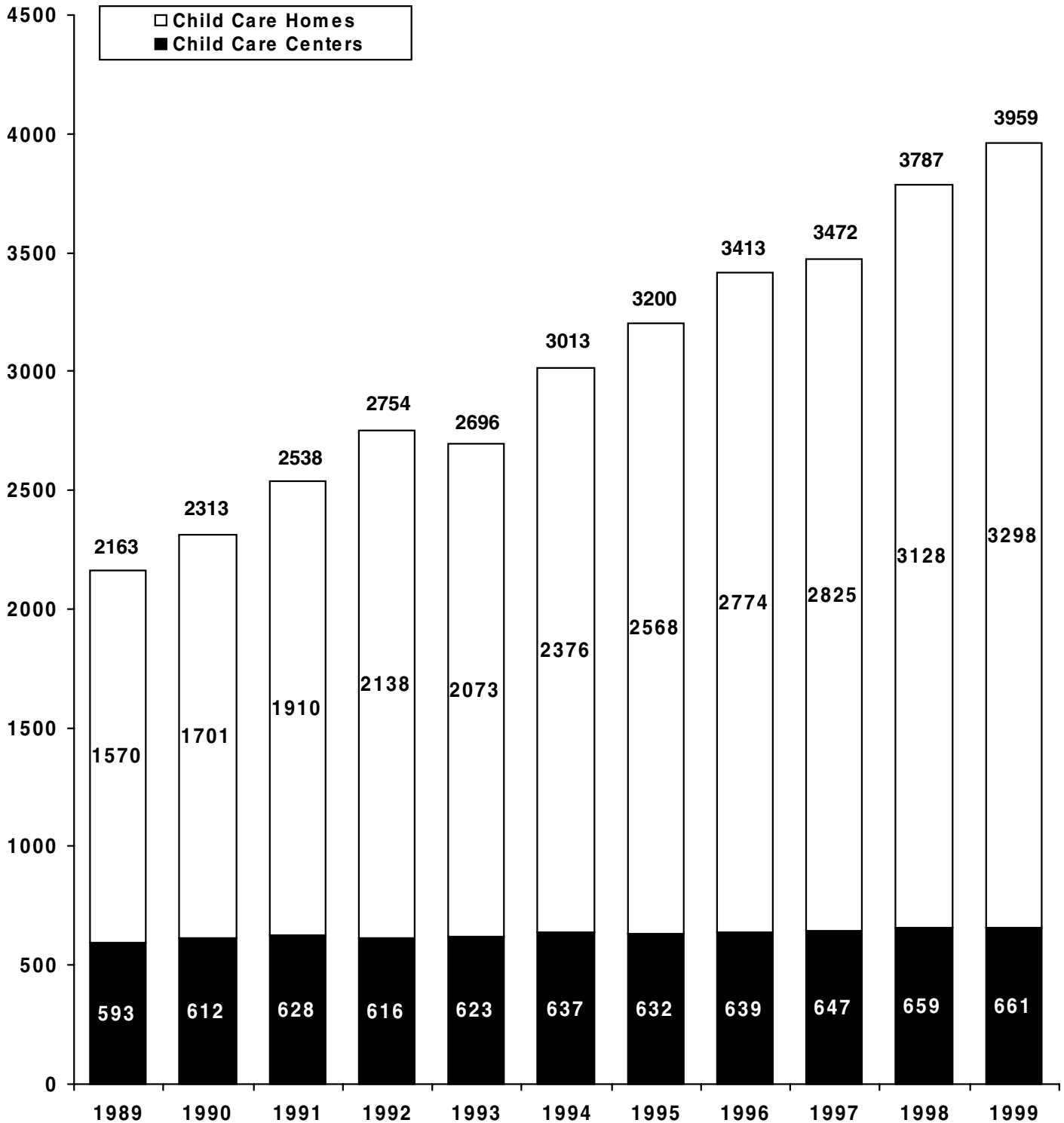
The Educare Bureau consultants work on all child care funding issues including Child Care and Development Fund, Step Ahead, and Child Care Financing Symposium issues. Consultants are assigned in accordance with county voucher agents.

Indiana Family And Social Services Administration
Number of Child Care Homes, Child Care Centers,
and Registered Child Care Ministries by County as of June 30, 1999



Indiana Family And Social Services Administration
Number Of Child Care Facilities Licensed By Division Of Family And Children
As Of June 30 Of Fiscal Years 1989 - 1999

Number Of Facilities



**Indiana Family And Social Services Administration
SFY 1999
Numbers & Profiles of Children Served By Program**

Program

Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)	43,893	Children aged birth through 12
School Age Child Care Project	6,000	Children between the ages of 5 & 13 for before and/or after school, during periods when school is not in session, and for students, who attend 1/2 day sessions
Social Services Block Grant - Child Care	6,500	Children aged 12 & younger through licensed child care centers and homes for low income families working or in education/training programs
Indiana First Steps Early Intervention System	11,477	Children aged birth through 2 years based on the child's developmental delays, high probability of developmental delay or being biologically at risk of having substantial developmental delays if early intervention services are not provided

NOTE: During FFY 1998, all child care funding (Guaranteed, Transitional, IV-A At Risk & CCDBG) combined into the Child Care and Development Fund administered by the Bureau of Child Development, DIVISION OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN.

Appendix

Program Eligibility

(1) Social Services Block Grant

Social Service Block Grant (SSBG) funds provide:

1. For the care and supervision of children aged 13 years and younger through licensed child care centers and homes for low income-families working or in education/training programs.
2. Early intervention services for children from birth to age 3 and their families which are family-centered and community-based to minimize the need for special education when children reach school age.

Families up to 190 percent of poverty are eligible. FSSA/DFC sliding fee scale for childcare services is utilized for determining family eligibility for SSBG childcare. Service is also available to children, without regard to income, who have been abused or neglected, upon written referral from the county office of the Division of Family and Children. 6,500 children receive child care services annually.

The Early Intervention System determines eligibility for children birth through 2 years of age based on the child's developmental delays, high probability of developmental delay or if the child is biologically at risk of having substantial developmental delays if early intervention services are not provided.

(2) Child Care and Development Fund Block Grant (CCDF)

The CCDF increases the availability, affordability, and quality of child care and development services. The CCDF allows parental choice in selecting quality child care and provides eligible parents with full or partial subsidy of child care costs.

All of Indiana's 92 Step Ahead councils receive funding for the development and implementation of a local voucher system and child care contract system for families with children age 13 years and under. The intent of CCDF is to maximize parental choice by both increasing the availability of child care services and allowing the parent to select the provider of child care.

Low income families with children age 13 and under are eligible.

Families must meet two criteria: 1) the parents must be in a job training/education program and/or employed, and 2) at or below 143 percent of the federal poverty level. A sliding fee scale for child care services is utilized for determining family eligibility and financial participation. Service is also available to children, without regard to income, who have been abused or neglected, upon written referral from the local office of the Division of Family and Children.

(3) School Age Child Care Project Fund

The School Age Child Care Project Fund provides care to children between the ages of 5 and 13 for before and/or after school, during periods when school is not in session, and for students who attend half-day sessions. The funds must be contracted with public school corporations or non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations. Families with gross income up to and including 190 percent of poverty guidelines are eligible for assistance by the use of a sliding fee scale. Before and after school child care is a critical component of the continuum of child care.

Indiana was the first state to appropriate state funds for school age child care and has continued its commitment by also setting aside \$1.16 million in CCDF funds that are allocated on a school corporation basis to all 92 counties.

State funds continue to provide reduced child care fees for low income working families seeking school age child care service.

These funds also allow providers to purchase needed program equipment and supplies and pay for staff training and development costs.

(4) First Steps Early Intervention

The First Steps Early Intervention system is responsible for developing and implementing a statewide, comprehensive, coordinated, multi-disciplinary, interagency program of early intervention services. This effort is required under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Act, Part C, which is for states to develop and implement a coordinated system of services for eligible families with infants and toddlers who have developmental delays, disabilities or those at significant risk for delays or disabilities. The eligibility criteria are:

- * Infants and toddlers with a diagnosed developmental delay.
- * Infants and toddlers with a medical condition that has a high probability of resulting in delay.
- * Infants and toddlers with biological risk factors that could result in a substantial developmental delay.

Once a child is found to be eligible, the parent is then free to choose the provider of services for the child. Services are provided to children and their families through an individualized family service plan designed to coordinate multiple services and financial resources, including special instruction for children, parent training and support, developmental therapies, and service coordination.

Each Indiana county has established an Interagency Coordinating Council on Infants and Toddlers, an advisory body, to oversee the development and implementation of a coordinated, comprehensive early intervention system at the local level. State agencies with programs or services for young children participate in the system through an Interagency Agreement for the Provision of Services, including the Department of Health, the Department of Education and the Indiana Head Start Association.

First Steps coordinates services provided and paid for through other agencies, including Maternal and Child Health projects; Children with Special Health Care Needs; Women, Infants, Children (WIC) programs; community mental health centers; Head Start; and local offices of the Division of Family and Children.

Appendix

Child Development Bureau Collaborative Projects

The Bureau is an active participant in collaborative projects to further facilitate collaboration at the local level and improve the quality of life for Hoosier families and children.

(1) Public Broadcasting System (PBS)

For the past eight years, the Bureau has entered into a partnership with Ball State University and PBS to provide professional knowledge about child care and early childhood education to child care personnel statewide through distance learning by developing a video tape series - Indiana's Child Care Collection Series. This year, we were honored when the National Association for the Education of Young Children featured our training tapes in their world wide catalog of teaching training aids. We have also entered into an agreement with Ivy Tech State College to provide a study guide for the series. Ivy Tech will grant 3 hours of college credit for completion of the course based on the collection (CHD 143).

Once again this year Ball State University, PBS and the Bureau staff have traversed the state seeking out the highest quality child care sites, both centers and homes, in order to produce a set of three Indiana specific videos to air along with 13 others. These videos cover topics of interest to Indiana's child care providers such as discipline techniques, developmentally appropriate programs for children and child care administration. The Child Care Collection Series is broadcast over all Indiana PBS stations every October and November, Tuesday and Thursday at 2:00 PM

(2) Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR)

One state agency and 44 child care resource and referral agencies are funded by federal grants through the State by the Child Care and Development Fund Block Grant. A statewide child care referral system exists to provide quality child care options for parents.

CCRRs collaborate with local Step Ahead and First Steps Councils, Head Start, and formal and informal training agencies. They conduct over 1000 training sessions annually.

The Licensing Section has a contract with Indiana Association Child Care Resource Referral to provide orientation training to all new child care home licensing applicants on the Class I Child Care Home Rules. This contract is paid for through the child care fund, which is made up of fees paid by licensees for processing applications.

(3) First Aid/CPR Training

The Child Care Health Section established a contract with the American Red Cross of Greater Indianapolis to provide statewide training in first aid, pediatric and adult CPR, and universal precautions to child care providers working in licensed child care centers and homes, group homes, child caring institutions, registered child care ministries, and foster parents. This contract is paid for through the child care fund, which is made up of fees paid by licensees for processing applications.

(4) Seek and Demand Quality Child Care

On July 1, 1998, Governor O'Bannon kicked off the "Seek and Demand Quality Child Care" campaign. This was the second phase of the Building Bright Beginnings initiative and provided to parents/consumers of child care services information on what constitutes quality in a child care setting. Pamphlets were distributed statewide through local Resource and Referral agencies, and a statewide toll free number was publicized 1-888-463-5473.

(5) Indiana Professional Development System (IPDS)

This established a professional development training system for all early childhood professionals who wish to receive credit for training. The credits can build to an AA degree, which can then build to a Bachelor's degree and beyond.

(6) USDA - Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Collaboration

Through a partnership with the Department of Education, small amounts of Title XX funds were provided to 20 profit centers in order to make them eligible for the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

(7) Unified Training System

The Indiana Unified Training System (UTS) provides a mechanism for First Steps and DOE Division of Special Education to coordinate their training efforts into a comprehensive system of technical assistance to families and providers supporting young children with special needs.

(8) Combined Enrollment Form

This collaborate document is used to determine eligibility across First Steps, Hoosier Healthwise, Children's Special Health Care Services, Maternal and Child Health Programs and the Children's Health Insurance Program (Hoosier Healthwise). This allows the family to share their information once and have access to multiple resources.

(9) Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS)

Indiana is the recipient of the only State level award for its collaborative efforts across First Steps and Children's Special Health Care Needs. This 4- year grant focuses on medical homes, infant mental health, inclusive child care and integrated services for children with special needs and their families.